

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DACCA 04824 020457Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 DLOS-09 OES-07 IO-13 INT-05
 /102 W

-----041337 022013Z /73

R 290733Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5969
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 4824

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GLS
TAGS: PBOR, POHGPN BG, IN
SUBJ: ADMIRAL KHAN ON FARAKKA

REF: DACCA 4493

1. ADMIRAL H.H. KHAN, CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF AND DEPUTY
CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR, SPEAKING TO AN AIRPORT
PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE AS THE HEAD OF
THE BANGLADESH DELEGATION TO THE NAIROBI CONFERENCE ON
DESERTIFICATION, DECLARED THAT BECAUSE OF THE WITH-
DRAWAL OF GANGES WATERS AT FARAKKA, THE SOUTHWESTERN PART
OF BANGLADESH WAS "VERY SAD" AND, WITHOUT ITS HISTORICAL
FLOW OF WATER, THE REGION "WILL BECOME A DESERT."
SPEAKING AT LENGTH ON THE FARAKKA QUESTION, KHAN ALLOWED
THAT HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER
JAGJIVAN RAM'S RECENT REFERENCE TO A PACKAGE DEAL. "THERE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DACCA 04824 020457Z

IS ONE PROBLEM AND ONE SOLUTION," HE ANNOUNCED, "THE
SOLUTION IS IN THE EQUITABLE SHARING OF THE GANGES WATER."

2. KHAN ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF AN INTER-
NATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT ON SURFACE WATER CONTROL, "ANARCHY,
DISPUTE AND DISHARMONY" WILL DISRUPT RELATIONS AMONG

NATIONS. DECLARING THAT "WATER WAS A GIFT FROM GOD AND NO ONE CAN BE DEPRIVED OF HIS SHARE," KHAN CALLED ON ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO CO-OPERATE IN FRAMING AN INTERNATIONAL LAW ON THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USE OF WATER.

3. ECHOING KHAN, THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER AND AT LEAST ONE BENGALI NEWSPAPER PRINTED EDITORIALS ON THE DIRE EFFECTS FOR BANGLADESH OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF GANGES WATER. THE OBSERVER, CALLING FOR A PERMANENT SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, LABELED RAM'S STATEMENT "ABSOLUTELY MISLEADING AND CONTRADICTORY TO THE ESTABLISHED REALITIES THAT THERE

CAN NEVER BE ANY DEAL WITH THE VITAL INTERESTS OF THE NATION AND SO MANY PEOPLE OF BANGLADESH."

4. COMMENT: KHAN'S LINKING OF THE FARAKKA ISSUE WITH THE WORLD-WIDE CONFERENCE FOR DESERTIFICATION SEEMS A PARTICULARLY DISINGENUOUS MOVE, SINCE FEW OBSERVERS SERIOUSLY WORRY THAT LRTS#

OF BANGLADESH ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING A DESERT. HIS BRASH REMARKS, MOREOVER, ABOUT NOT "UNDERSTANDING" RAM'S REFERENCE TO A "PACKAGE DEAL" ARE HARDLY LIKELY TO ENHANCE THE FARAKKA NEGOTIATIONS, SCHEDULED TO RESUME
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DACCA 04824 020457Z

IN NEW DELHI AFTER THE MUSLIM HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, NO ONE HERE IS QUITE CLEAR AS TO JAGJIVAN'S MEANING AND KHAN, THEREFORE, SEEMS TO BE COMPLAINING BEFORE HE KNOWS WHAT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT.
MASTERS

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, PRESS CONFERENCES, WATER RIGHTS, NEGOTIATIONS, BOUNDARY RIVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DACCA04824
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770350-0040, D770311-0626
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770814/aaaaalad.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 20075851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DACCA 4493
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1453816
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADMIRAL KHAN ON FARAKKA
TAGS: PBOR, PORG, BG, IN, (KHAN, H H)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/20075851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009